

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed September 3, 2003 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1-38, 41, 46-50, and 53-57 are canceled. Claims 39, 40, 42-45, 51, 52, and 58-63 are pending in this application, with claims 39, 42, 45, 51, and 58 being the only independent claims. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as herein amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action mailed September 3, 2003, claims 36-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite because they depend from canceled claim 1. Claims 36 and 38 are now canceled. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection now be withdrawn.

Claims 31, 32, 34, and 46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,018,588 (Haberer).

Claims 31-35, 41, and 46-50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as obvious over EP 0 243 210 (EPO '210) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,224,005 (Dysarz). Claims 36-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as obvious over EPO '210 in view of Dysarz and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,578,911 (Hashimoto).

Claims 39, 40, 42-45, 51, 52, and 58-63 were allowed.

In view of the allowed claims, the rejected claims are now canceled by this amendment such that only claims 39, 40, 42-45, 51, 52, and 58-63 which were allowed remain pending in the application.

Since the application now includes only claims that were allowed by the Examiner, the application is now deemed to be in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

By 

Thomas C. Pontani

Reg. No. 29,763

551 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1210

New York, New York 10176

(212) 687-2770

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